

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification, claims and drawings have been amended in order to overcome the objections raised by the Examiner. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-24.

In the amended specification, the corrections requested by the Examiner have been made. A number of other minor amendments have also been made in the specification.

In respect of the drawings, the new drawing pages include amendments to previous Figures 2 and 12c. Specifically, Figure 2 has been divided into new Figures 2a and 2b with the detail of previous Figure 2 now comprising Figure 2b. In respect of Figure 12c, reference character 5a and its leading line have been deleted.

At paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Figure 7 shows modified forms of construction in the same view. This is incorrect. In fact, Figure 7 shows various stages involved in breaking the connection between the coil member and the fastener, followed by radial expansion of the coil member.

In the amended claims, the corrections requested by the Examiner have been made, with the exception that claim 24, line 27, has not been amended by replacing "outward" by --outwardly facing-- as suggested by the Examiner. Rather, it is submitted that the term "radially outward portion" is correct since it modifies the "thread-contacting surface of the coil member" rather than the coil member itself. A number of other minor amendments have been made in the claims.


The Examiner rejected a number of the previous claims under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, stating that these claims are unpatentable over claims of the applicants' U.S. Patent No. 6,494,657. In order to overcome this rejection, a terminal disclaimer is submitted with this amendment.

It is submitted that the enclosed terminal disclaimer and the amendments place this application in condition for allowance. Favourable consideration is respectfully requested.

The undersigned agent is authorized to submit this response by way of an Authorization to Act in a Representative Capacity submitted to the USPTO on November 2, 2005.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By: _____

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